

IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly replace the claims of record with the following full set of claims:

1. (Currently amended) A communication system comprising at least:

a network,
a server for storing and streaming a content comprising several random access points, said content being formatted in a plurality of encoding rates, said encoding rates associated with a corresponding connection, wherein said random access points are common in each of said formatted encoding rate versions of said content;
a user count manager, said user count manager comprising a database of registered users,
each registered user having one or more terminals with one or more connections to said network for carrying out a streaming session with said server,
said database storing user identification data, said user count manager being designed so that, when a streaming session is interrupted, an indication of the streamed content and of a last random access point in the streamed content when the stream was interrupted are [[is]] stored in said database together with the user identification data, so as to allow the resumption of the interrupted streaming session from said last random access point by ~~selecting~~ one of said connections available to said user, wherein which of said encoding rate formatted content is determined by an encoding rate offered by said one of said connections, a position within said determined content associated with said one of said connections is determined based on said last random access point is correlated with an access point associated with a connection associated with a selected one of said terminals available to said user and said one of said connections connection being is determined based on an available bandwidth of the network. ~~associated with said selected terminal.~~

2. (Original) A communication system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said database further stores user connection data comprising an identification of each connection

available to said user, and for each available connection, an indication of an initial sending rate to be used for streaming a content toward said user via said connection.

3. (Original) A communication system as claimed in claim 2, wherein said server has access to several encoded versions of said content, each version having a specific encoding rate, and the version initially used when resuming a streaming session toward a user via a certain connection is the version whose encoding rate best matches the initial sending rate to be used for said connection.

4. (Currently amended) A device comprising:

a transmission unit/reception unit; and

a processor hosting;

a user count manager comprising:

a database of registered users,

said registered users having one or more terminals with one or more connections to a network for carrying out a streaming session with a server, said server including content formatted in a plurality of encoding rates, said encoding rates associated with a corresponding connection, wherein random access points in each of said formatted encoding rate versions of said content are common;

said database being intended for storing user identification data, and

said user count manager being designed so that, when a streaming session is interrupted, an indication of the streamed content and of a last random access point in the streamed content when the stream was interrupted are [[is]] stored in said database together with said user identification data, so as to allow the resumption of the interrupted streaming session from said last random access point by ~~selecting~~ one of said connections available to one of said terminals associated with said user, wherein which of said encoding rate formatted content is determined by an encoding rate offered by said one of said connections, a position within said determined content associated with said one of said connection is determined based on said last random access point is correlated with an access point associated with a connection associated with a selected one of said

~~terminals available to said user and said one of said connections connection~~ being determined based on an available bandwidth of said network ~~associated with said selected terminal.~~

5. (Currently amended) A method of streaming a content comprising several random access points via a network to registered users for which user identification data are stored in a database, said content being formatted in a plurality of encoding rates, said encoding rates associated with a corresponding connection, wherein said random access points are common in each of said formatted encoding rate versions of said content; said registered users having one or more terminals with one or more connections to said network, said streaming method comprising the step of:

storing in said database, with said user identification data, when a content streaming session is interrupted, an indication of the streamed content and of a last random access point in the streamed content when the stream was interrupted, so as to allow the resumption of the interrupted streaming session from said last random access point; ~~wherein said last random access point is correlated with an access point associated with one of said connections available to said user, said connection being determined based on an available bandwidth associated with a selected one of said terminals by one of said connections available to one of said terminals associated with said user, wherein~~ which of said encoding rate formatted content is determined by an encoding rate offered by said one of said connections, a position within said determined content associated with said one of said connections is determined based on said last random access point and said one of said connections is determined based on an available bandwidth of the network.

6. (Original) A streaming method as claimed in claim 5, wherein said database further stores user connection data comprising an identification of each connection available to said user, and for each available connection, an indication of an initial sending rate to be used for streaming a content toward said user via said connection.

7. (Original) A streaming method as claimed in claim 6, wherein several encoded versions of said content are available, each version having a specific encoding rate, and the version initially used when resuming a streaming session toward a user via a certain connection is the version whose encoding rate best matches the initial sending rate to be used for said connection.

8 (Cancelled)

9. (Currently amended) A content streaming service hosted on a computer system, said service ~~for~~ streaming a content comprising several random access points via a network, said content being formatted in a plurality of encoding rates, said encoding rates associated with a corresponding connection, wherein said random access points are common in each of said formatted encoding rate versions of said content, said service being offered to registered users having one or more terminals with one or more connections to said network, and for which user identification data are stored in a database, said content streaming service ~~comprising an option of interrupting a streaming session and resuming an interrupted streaming session with any connection available to the user, said service being based on the storage in said database, together with said user identification data, of an indication of the streamed content and of a last random access point in the streamed content when the streaming session was interrupted, so as to allow the resumption of the interrupted streaming session from said last random access point, wherein said last random access point is correlated with an access point associated with one of said connections available to said user, said connection being determined based on an available bandwidth associated with a selected one of said terminals by one of said connections available to one of said terminals associated with said user, wherein which of said encoding rate formatted content is determined by an encoding rate offered by said one of said connections, an address within said determined content associated with said one of said connections is determined based on said last random access point and said one of said connections is determined based on an available bandwidth of the network.~~

10. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium that includes a computer program, which when accessed by a computer system that enables streaming a content comprising several random access points via a network to registered users for which user identification data are stored in a database, said content being formatted in a plurality of encoding rates, said encoding rates associated with a corresponding connection, wherein said random access points are common in each of said formatted encoding rate versions of said content, the registered users having one or more terminals with one or more connections to the network,

the streaming method including:

storing in the database, with the user identification data, an indication of the streamed content and of the last random access point in the streamed content when a content streaming session is interrupted, and

enabling the resumption of the interrupted streaming session from the last random access point with ~~any a~~ a connection available to the user, ~~wherein said last random access point is correlated with an access point associated with each of the connections available to said user said connection being determined based on an available bandwidth associated with a selected one of said terminals, wherein which of said encoding rate formatted content is determined by an encoding rate offered by said connection, said resumption is begun from a position within said determined content associated with said connection which is determined based on said last random access point and said connection is determined based on an available bandwidth of the network.~~

11. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 10, wherein:

the database stores user connection data that includes an identification of each connection available to the user, and for each available connection, an indication of an initial sending rate to be used for streaming a content toward the user via the connection, and

several encoded versions of the content are available, each version having a specific encoding rate, and the version initially used when resuming a streaming session toward the user via a given connection is the version whose encoding rate best matches the initial sending rate to be used for the connection.

12. (Currently amended) A server comprising:

a database that is configured to enable storage of a plurality of identifications of terminals associated with each of one or more users, and

a monitor that is configured to monitor communications between a first terminal associated with a user and a source of streaming content material, said content material having an encoded rate content format associated with each of a plurality of connections to said user, and to record an identification of a last most recent access point of the content material communicated to the first terminal,

wherein, upon an interruption of the communication with the first terminal, the server is configured to enable a resumption of transmission from last a most recent access point in the stream when the stream was interrupted through a connection to a second terminal associated with the user, wherein ~~said most recent random access point is correlated with an access point which of said encoding rate formatted content is determined by an encoding rate offered by a connection to said second terminal, a position within said determined content associated with said connection to said second terminal is determined based on said last random access point associated with said second terminal through a plurality of access points that are common among different content formats and said connection to said second terminal is being determined based on an available bandwidth of the network associated with said second terminal~~

13. (Currently amended) The server of claim 12, wherein said server includes ~~including~~ the source of streaming content material.

14. (Previously presented) The server of claim 12, wherein the database includes an

initial set of one or more communication parameters associated with each terminal, and the server is configured to resume transmission based on the initial set of parameters associated with the second terminal.

15. (Previously presented) The server of claim 14, wherein the source of streaming content material includes a plurality of versions of the streaming content material, and the initial set of parameters includes an identification of an appropriate version associated with each terminal.

16. (Previously presented) The server of claim 14, wherein the initial set of parameters includes an identification of an appropriate communication speed associated with each terminal.